

California Department of Health Services

California-Mexico Migrant Health Initiative (CMHI) update, April 2002

The CMHI is a partnership to improve the health of migrants from their communities of origin in Mexico to their communities of destination in California. The major partners are the University of California, CDHS, and Mexico Secretariat of Health. The CDHS was funded for CMHI activities at \$470,000 for 2001-2002. The California Office of Binational Border Health (COBBH) has been working with other Prevention Services programs in coordinating the following:

CDHS has supported the seven **county health departments** of

- San Diego, Imperial, Los Angeles, Fresno, Monterey, Alameda, and Sonoma to coordinate health education activities in their migrant communities with CDHS, UC, and local health agencies, most importantly for the Binational Health Week, October, 2001.

Environmental and Occupational Disease Program:

- Coordinating with the Labor Occupational Health Program (LOHP) of UC Berkeley, the California Rural Legal Assistance (CRLA), and Radio Bilingue and Radio Campesino, on farmworker safety.

Cancer Prevention Program:

- Coordinating with the CMHI counties for bilingual breast cancer educational outreach efforts to migrant communities.

Diabetes Control Program:

- Targeting migrant farm worker families in the greater Fresno area by establishing Mexican-American led bilingual Diabetes Consumer Action Groups (CAGs) to teach about necessary components of good diabetes care.

Tuberculosis Program:

- Coordinating a report of TB in migrants and a strategic plan for TB control/prevention in migrants.

Immunizations Program:

- Producing a suite of Spanish training materials on immunization techniques. Also conducted an immunization Spanish media campaign for Binational Health Week.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases Program:

- Coordinated with MEXFAM (Mexico Foundation for Family Planning) and CENSIDA (Mexico's AIDS Agency) to print HIV/STD prevention booklets; with Radio Bilingue on binational STD prevention programs; and conducted Spanish STD trainings for non-clinicians.

HIV/AIDS Program:

- Coordinating with CENSIDA and the UC University-wide AIDS Research Program on migrant surveillance, bilingual training, and a binational report.

Drinking water Program:

- Translating the Water Treatment Operators Manual, in partnership with the US-Mexico Foundation for Science, for training in Baja California and Mexico.

Office of Binational Border Health:

- Contracting with consultants to a) compile data and develop a California Migrant Health Status Report, b) pilot elements of a Binational Simplified Surveillance Project in Imperial County, and c) update the CDHS “English-Spanish Glossary for Health Aides”, to distribute statewide to health professionals serving migrants.